

Bonnie Duran, Ph.D.

Bonnie Duran, DrPH, (Opelousas/Coushatta Descendent) is a Professor in the Schools of Social Work and Public Health at the University of Washington (UW), in Seattle. Before, during and after completing her doctoral degree at UC Berkeley, she has worked in public health and social care research, education and practice with a focus on Native Americans/Indigenous peoples and other communities of color for over 35 years. Dr Duran has conducted studies of mental disorder prevalence, risk and protective factors, victimization, and treatment seeking/ barriers to care among people attending Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities and probability samples from the Tribal Colleges and University's within the largest rural Tribal Nations in the U.S. In partnership with communities, she has adapted and developed Indigenous interventions for system level, community and individual health and wellbeing.

Another aspect of Dr. Duran's empirical work is the development of indigenous theory and Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) methods. She has pioneered the development and application of CBPR and other forms of Community-Engaged Research (CEnR) and has helped to articulate and disseminate the theory of "Historical Trauma".

For the past 12 years she has worked in close partnership with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and Tribal College faculty, staff and students to conduct Indigenous culture-centered epidemiology and interventions research to enhance college success. Dr. Duran is currently co-chair of the Indigenous Expert Panel of the NIAID Coronavirus Prevention Network ([CoVPN](#)) and is on a UW COVID-19 Vaccine Trial research team.

The overall goals of Bonnie's research and practice are to work in partnership with communities to design treatment and prevention efforts that are effective, empowering, sustainable, and that have maximum public health impact.

Dr. Duran is also a Buddhist Mindfulness practitioner and teacher. She teaches long and short retreats and advanced programs at the Insight Meditation Society ([IMS](#)) in Massachusetts, and Spirit Rock Meditation Center ([SRMC](#)) in California and is on the SRMC Guiding Teachers Council.